



A World of Knowledge

**MAIN LIBRARY
CATAWBA COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
115 West C Street
Newton, NC 28658**

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LIBRARY COLUMN

Try these reads at the beach

NEWTON—Need a book for the beach?

Catawba County Library System staff members have several suggestions. Whether your taste is romance, family drama, travel or thrillers, their picks represent titles that are fairly new and “light” enough for an enjoyable read on vacation.

Whether you’re seeking an audiobook, downloadable book (for your MP3 player) or a traditional print edition, reading can add dimension to your time off.

The recommended novels are:

Family Tree by Barbara Delinsky —a story of race, family and choices people make in times of crisis that have consequences that last for generations.

For One More Day by Mitch Albom—The runaway best-seller poses a moral tale of a man who’s allowed to spend another day with his mother who died eight years ago.

My Sister’s Keeper by Jodi Picoult. Her 11th novel explores the moral dilemma of a teen-age girl conceived as a bone marrow match for her sister who has leukemia.

Morning Comes Softly by Debbie Macomber—Montana man places personal ad for a bride, sight-unseen.

Sweet Home Carolina by Patricia Rice—Contemporary romance pits laid-off textile worker with a handsome European intent on failing her plan to re-open the mill.

The Spellman Files by Lisa Lutz—A funny mix of chick-lit and mystery as involving a young private eye launching a career with her quirky family’s firm.

Short Straw by Stuart Woods—Santa Fe lawyer Ed Eagle returns in a fast-paced, sexy thriller that has come to be Woods’ hallmark.

The Watchman by Robert Crais—Thriller involving Joe Pike overseeing the safety of a beautiful woman who, after a traffic accident, discovers she’s in the midst of an FBI drug probe.

Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen—Story of a love triangle amidst circus life in the 1930s as told by an aging man now confined to a nursing home.

Four nonfiction picks were on the list:

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson—An American expat returns after 20 years in Britain, to acquaint himself with America by walking the Appalachian Trail. The humorous 1999 travelogue is a classic.

A Year in Provence by Peter Mayle—Published years ago, this romp through Southern France will melt the crustiest Francophobe. This and his more recent works, *Encore Provence*, *A Good Year* offer armchair visits of Southern France.

I Feel Bad About My Neck by Nora Ephron—Middle-aged women revel in this humorous memoir of life's trials, best enjoyed as an audiobook read by the author.

Leaving the Saints by Martha Beck—Memoir of a woman's spiritual quest as she becomes disenchanted with the Mormon faith and comes to terms with sexual abuse by one of the church fathers.

Catawba County Library System offers downloadable books from its website at <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/library/> The system operates in seven locations: Main in Newton as well as Conover, Claremont, Maiden, Southwest, St. Stephens and Sherrills Ford.

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